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METHOD FOR WRITING DATA BITS TO A MEMORY ARRAY

TECHNICAL FIELD

This application is a divisional of application SN. 10/053,995, filed 01/18/2002, now patent No. 6,687,168.

The present invention relates to a method and apparatus for writing data bits to a memory array.

BACKGROUND ART

In nearly every electronic and computer device and/or system, there are memory components and elements which are used in conjunction with the storing of data/information. This data/information may be, but is not limited to, operating system instructions, currently used data, or data that is to be archived and retained within a memory component or data storage device, and the like.

To provide for the storage of data that is to be archived, non-volatile data storage devices were developed to provide data storage. Permanently stored data, commonly termed archived data, only needs to be written once to memory, and can then be read many times. One example of memory that can provide data storage is commonly referred to as WORM (write once read many) memory. Another example of memory that can provide data storage is rewriteable memory.

Unfortunately, previous data storage devices such as hard disks, floppies, and CD-RWs, etc., are now commonly larger in size than many of the handheld computer systems and digital devices so prevalent today.

Accordingly, to provide data storage for the more diminutive computers and digital devices, newer and smaller sized data storage devices have been developed. Further, these newer data storage devices need to have storage capacities sufficient for the storing for digital images and digital audio.

One such data storage device recently developed is flash memory. One form of flash memory is that which is compatible with PCMCIA standards. Another form of flash memory is that which is compatible with a Compact Flash card standards. In yet another form, the flash memory is very similar in